



## FACT SHEET

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### AFRTS Satellite Network (SATNET)

In 1978, the American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) was among the first organizations to use satellites as a means of transmitting television material. Today, AFRTS provides radio and television programming by satellite 24 hours-a-day, to 177 countries and U.S. territories.

Using an Americas satellite, AFRTS provides satellite service to the U.S. base in Honduras; the Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and U.S. bases in Puerto Rico. Additionally, this satellite provides connectivity for the network's Atlantic and Pacific satellites.

Using an International Satellite (INTELSAT) over the Atlantic Ocean, AFRTS serves DoD personnel in Africa, the Middle East, Southwest Asia, and on the islands of Diego Garcia, Iceland and the Azores (Portugal).

In the Pacific, an INTELSAT satellite carries the AFRTS signal to DoD personnel in Japan and Korea.

A satellite superstation concept is used in the European Hemisphere to deliver regional radio and television services. In Germany, the American Forces Network-Europe (AFN-E) uplinks to a European Telecommunication Satellite which is received at sites throughout Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and some parts of Southwest Asia.

All AFRTS satellite transmissions use the Scientific-Atlanta PowerVu digital compression system to allow the transmission of multiple channels of television and radio services over a single satellite transponder. This system employs digital conditional access encryption to protect the programming from being received by unauthorized audiences. SATNET provides full-time, live, radio and television services from the United States to servicemembers, DoD civilians, and their families serving overseas.